

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Mark J. Burzynski et al : GROUP ART UNIT: 3763  
SERIAL NO.: 09/360,877 :  
FILING DATE: July 23, 1999 : EXAMINER: D. Blyveis  
TITLE: SELF-BLUNTING NEEDLE MEDICAL :  
DEVICES AND METHODS OF :  
MANUFACTURE THEREOF : ATTY. DOCKET: P-1522-1

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

October 13, 2000

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the office action mailed July 26, 2000 in the captioned application.

**AMENDMENTS**

**In the Claims**

Amend the claims as follows.

Cancel claim 40.

Rewrite claims 1, 31 and 39 as follows:

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1. (Amended) A self-blunting needle cannula device comprising:
  - (a) an external component comprising a needle cannula [having an outside diameter, a through-bore] having a through-bore [diameter], a tip comprising a puncture tip, a mounting end, and an external component hub on the needle cannula spaced from the tip;
  - (b) an internal component comprising an elongate blunting member having a tip defining a blunt tip, and an internal component hub on the blunting member being disposed within the through-bore of the needle cannula;
  - (c) wherein the external component and the internal component are movable relative to each other between a sharpened configuration in which the blunt tip is positioned short of the puncture tip of the needle cannula to leave the puncture tip exposed, and a blunting configura-

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